

May 1, 2023

Council President Mr. Martin called the May 01, 2023 meeting to order at 6:06 PM. The roll was called with the following members present: Mrs. Dennis, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Millhone, Mr. Null, and Mr. Wallace present. Also present were Mayor Lorentz, Safety-Service Director Mrs. Hoblitzell, City Auditor Mrs. Nolan, City Law Director Mr. Webster and Clerk of Council Mrs. Meredith. Councilman McClead was in attendance at 6:17pm and Ms. Abdella was in attendance at 6:25pm. Absent from the meeting was Treasurer Mrs. Cassidy.

Council President Mr. Martin asked that everyone please rise for the Prayer and remain standing for the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Lorentz gave the invocation and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PERSONS APPEARING BEFORE COUNCIL – AGENDA items only**

Jesse Wonycott 805 Main Street, Belpre addressed the lease agreement and who was actually responsible for paying for the utilities. There seems to be some confusion. Mrs. Wonycott stated that this is for the lease agreement for Station 1 and Station 2.

Mr. Webster stated that the city agreed to pay for the utilities however there may be an increase in the utilities and that is why they will re-negotiate in year 2 and 3. They are now using Station 2 and if they determine the utilities are higher because of EMS use of Station 2. This will be for the benefit of the city.

Mr. Wallace said this wasn't what the agreement said. He stated that his copy was blank.

Mr. Webster stated that he should have received an email copy today with that filled in. Mr. Webster asked if he would like a copy. Mr. Wallace stated that it would be nice. The email was sent from Kim McFee at Tom's office at 2:10pm today.

Council went into recess to make copies of the current Lease Agreement at 6:20pm.

Once council had received an updated copy of the lease agreement, Mr. Webster stated that the only difference was that the blanks had been filled in.

Mrs. Wonycott also asked about the legislation to appoint representatives to bid for the purchase of personal property. Do we have an exact amount that we are going to bid?

Mr. Webster stated that it wasn't public information. She asked if this was going to interfere with the request of Chief Stumps proposal for the new infrastructure to rewire the building.

President of Council Mr. Martin stated that we haven't determined the monies yet.

Mr. Webster stated that we don't know as of now what the Finance/Audit Committee has decided to do about the request by Chief Stump. This is unanswerable at this point. There was nothing appropriated on the police chief's request. It was referred to the finance committee and they haven't taken action on it yet.

Mrs. Woycott stated that the police chief had requested \$100,000 from the ARPA fund. He also requested to turn in money that was set aside for the purchase of a police cruiser for the police department for infrastructure.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:27pm for the purpose of discussing personal property.

President of Council Mr. Martin stated that once council resumes from the Executive Session further action would be taken at this evening's meeting. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion to resume from Executive Session at 6:36pm. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

President of Council Mr. Martin stated that we are now back in Regular Session.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

President of Council Mr. Martin assigned to Mrs. Dennis a **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.**

Mrs. Dennis brought before council for first reading **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings of a **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.** Discussion followed. Mr. Null stated that this was not an emergency piece of legislation but was a timely piece of legislation and this is why I'm for suspending the rule. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis brought before council for the second and third reading **RESOLUTION TO APPOINT REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE CITY OF BELPRE TO BID FOR THE PURCHASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mrs. Dennis moved this be **Resolution #28, 2022-2023** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson brought before council for first reading **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF BELPRE AND CITY OF BELPRE EMS,**

**INC.** Discussion followed. Mr. Ferguson made a clarification under Section E that the emergency response is for car wrecks and other medical emergencies and are not going to be used for transports from one location to another.

Mr. Webster then stated that they do not have a transport license. In order to do transport, they would have to acquire an additional license.

Mr. Wallace was concerned that the year, make, milage and VIN number is still missing from his updated copy. Mr. Wallace was also concerned that the lease agreement says nothing about Mutual Aid. It is pretty clear that they are going to run in Belpre but what if Little Hocking or another surrounding place needs help?

Mr. Webster stated that Mutual Aid had not been approved in the original contract. If they don't have 24/7 coverage for one vehicle, they wouldn't be able to man coverage for another vehicle to do Mutual Aid.

Mr. Wallace asked if this could be revisited on down the road.

Mr. Webster stated that it could.

Mr. Wallace also had a concern about the coverage of \$1,000 if the transmission goes out of the vehicle. It says that the city would be responsible for the rest of the coverage. I don't agree with that at all. I believe it needs to be more. I would like to see that taken out.

Mr. Null stated that he agreed with Mr. Wallace. They need to take care of it.

President of Council Mr. Martin stated that these vehicles do not belong to the city and are leased. They are multiple years old. If they were newer, I would think they would have more responsibility of maintaining.

Mr. Webster stated that there is a maintenance provision in the agreement. It states that the Safety-Service Director and a representative from the EMS will be responsible for a maintenance schedule and must be in compliance by EMS to see that the vehicles are properly maintained. It is required that they go to a property licensed mechanic.

Ms. Abdella spoke regarding transport from the hospitals and other medical facilities.

Mr. Wallace made a motion to amend the \$1,000 maintenance coverage to \$5,000 on each event that would happen to the vehicle. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye except for Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Millhone and Ms. Abdella. The amendment passed 4-3.

Mr. Ferguson made a motion on a **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF BELPRE AND CITY OF BELPRE EMS, INC. as amended.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.


Mr. Ferguson moved to suspend the rule of council on three different days to allow for the second and third readings of **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF BELPRE AND CITY OF BELPRE EMS, INC.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting.

Mr. Ferguson moved the second and third readings of **RESOLUTION TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN CITY OF BELPRE AND CITY OF BELPRE EMS, INC.** A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

Mr. Ferguson moved this be **Resolution #29, 2022-2023** and duly passed. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

**ADJOURN:**

Ms. Abdella made a motion to adjourn at 7:02pm. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye. A vote was taken with all members of council present voting aye.

  
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President of Council Mr. Martin

  
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Clerk of Belpre City Council Mrs. Meredith